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AMENDMENTS IN THE CLAIMS

1 1. (Previously presented) An apparatus, comprising:

2 a network component that employs a) one or more call characteristics to make a
3 determination to initiate a request to a switch component for one or more positions of
4 one or more mobile stations and b) one or more call parameters to identify one or more
5 cellular network cells associated with the one or more mobile stations, wherein at least
6 one of the one or more call parameters employed to identify one of the one or more
7 cellular network cells is a telephony number of at least one of the one or more mobile
8 stations; and

9 wherein the network component receives, in response to the request, the one or
10 more positions of the one or more mobile stations from a position component that
11 determines the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations continuously;
12 and

13 wherein the switch component assigns a channel to the at least one of the one or
14 more mobile stations for a call upon a comparison of a calling party number with the at
15 least one of the one or more call parameters.

1 2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network component
2 performs a comparison of the one or more call characteristics with one or more
3 thresholds to make the determination to initiate the request for the one or more
4 positions of the one or more mobile stations.

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1 3. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the one or more
2 call characteristics comprise a pilot signal strength characteristic, and wherein the one
3 or more thresholds comprise a pilot signal strength threshold, and wherein the network
4 component performs a comparison of the pilot signal strength characteristic with the
5 pilot signal strength threshold; and

6 wherein the network component makes the determination to initiate the request
7 for the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations based on a result of the
8 comparison of the pilot signal strength characteristic with the pilot signal strength
9 threshold.

1 4. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the network
2 component employs the one or more call characteristics to create one or more call
3 statistics, and wherein the one or more thresholds comprise one or more call
4 characteristic thresholds and one or more call statistic thresholds; and

5 wherein the network component performs a comparison of the one or more call
6 statistics with the one or more call statistic thresholds; and

7 wherein the network component employs a comparison of the one or more call
8 characteristics with the one or more call characteristic thresholds and the comparison of
9 the one or more call statistics with the one or more call statistic thresholds to make the
10 determination to initiate the request.

1 5. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the network
2 component comprises an interface, and wherein the network component receives the
3 one or more thresholds from a service provider through employment of the interface.

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1 6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network component
2 employs the determination to initiate the request to promote an avoidance of congestion
3 in one or more cellular network communication paths.

1 7. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein the network
2 component makes the determination to initiate the request upon an exceedance of the
3 one or more call characteristics relative to one or more thresholds; and

4 wherein upon the exceedance of the one or more call characteristics relative to
5 the one or more thresholds, the network component and the position component
6 cooperate to obtain the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations.

1 8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein upon a termination of the
2 exceedance of the one or more call characteristics relative to the one or more
3 thresholds, the network component and the position component cooperate to
4 discontinue attainment of the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations.

1 9. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network
2 component employs the one or more call characteristics to perform a selection of the
3 one or more mobile stations from a plurality of mobile stations; and

4 wherein the network component employs the selection to formulate the request
5 for the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations from the plurality of
6 mobile stations.

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1 10. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the one or more
2 mobile stations are associated with the one or more cellular network cells; and

3 wherein the network component employs the one or more call characteristics to
4 perform a selection of the one or more cellular network cells from a plurality of cellular
5 network cells; and

6 wherein the network component employs the selection to formulate the request
7 for the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations that are associated with
8 the one or more cellular network cells.

1 11. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 10, wherein the network
2 component employs the switch component to identify the one or more mobile stations
3 that are associated with the one or more cellular network cells; and

4 wherein the network component employs the switch component to determine the
5 one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations that are associated with the
6 one or more cellular network cells.

1 12. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network
2 component receives the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations in
3 response to the request; and

4 wherein the network component employs the one or more positions of the one or
5 more mobile stations and the one or more call characteristics to develop a coverage
6 map.

1 13. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, further comprising:

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2 the switch component that provides the one or more call characteristics to the
3 network component;

4 wherein the network component employs the one or more call characteristics to
5 make a determination to initiate a request to the switch component; and

6 wherein the switch component obtains the one or more positions of the one or
7 more mobile stations based on the request to the switch component.

1 14. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the network
2 component provides to the switch component the one or more call parameters; and

3 wherein the switch component employs the one or more call parameters to
4 perform an identification of the one or more mobile stations from a plurality of mobile
5 stations; and

6 wherein the switch component employs the identification of the one or more
7 mobile stations from the plurality of mobile stations to obtain the one or more positions
8 of the one or more mobile stations.

1 15. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 14, wherein the one or
2 more mobile stations are associated with one or more calls; and

3 wherein the switch component employs the one or more call parameters to
4 perform an identification of the one or more calls from a plurality of calls; and

5 wherein the switch component employs the identification of the one or more calls
6 from the plurality of calls to obtain the one or more positions of the one or more mobile
7 stations that are associated with the one or more calls.

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1 16. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 13, wherein the network
2 component and the switch component receive the one or more positions of the one or
3 more mobile stations from the position component; and

4 wherein the network component and the switch component cooperate to develop
5 a coverage map through employment of the one or more positions of the one or more
6 mobile stations.

1 17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the position component
2 employs one or more of an Enhanced Forward Link Trilateration algorithm and an IS-
3 801 solution using an Assisted Global Positioning System (AGPS), Advanced Forward
4 Link Trilateration (AFLT) or combined AGPS/AFLT algorithm to determine the one or
5 more positions of the one or more mobile stations.

1 18. (Previously presented) A method, comprising the steps of:
2 initiating a request to a switch component for one or more positions of one or
3 more mobile stations through employment of a) one or more call characteristics and b)
4 one or more call parameters to identify one or more cellular network cells associated
5 with the one or more mobile stations, wherein at least one of the one or more call
6 parameters employed to identify one of the one or more cellular network cells is a
7 telephony number of at least one of the one or more mobile stations;

8 receiving, in response to the request, the one or more positions of the one or
9 more mobile stations; and

10 determining the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations
11 continuously;

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12 wherein the switch component assigns a channel to the at least one of the one or
13 more mobile stations for a call upon a comparison of a calling party number with the at
14 least one of the one or more call parameters.

1 19. (Original) The method of claim 18, wherein the step of initiating the
2 request for the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations through
3 employment of the one or more call characteristics comprises the steps of:

4 performing a comparison of the one or more call characteristics with one or more
5 thresholds; and

6 initiating the request for the one or more positions of the one or more mobile
7 stations based on the comparison.

1 20. (Previously presented) The method of claim 19, wherein the step of
2 initiating the request for the one or more positions of the one or more mobile stations
3 based on the comparison comprises the steps of:

4 determining the one or more call parameters associated with the one or more
5 thresholds;

6 identifying the one or more mobile stations from a plurality of mobile stations
7 through employment of the one or more call parameters; and

8 initiating the request for the one or more positions of the one or more mobile
9 stations through employment of the one or more call parameters.

1 21. (Canceled)

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1 22. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 16, wherein the position
2 component is pre-provisioned with one or more intervals of time to determine the one or
3 more positions of the one or more mobile stations.

1 23. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 5, wherein the thresholds
2 provide a measure of a quality level of service provided to the one or more mobile
3 stations.

1 24. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network
2 component employs the one or more call parameters to identify i) the one or more
3 cellular network cells associated with the one or more mobile stations or ii) the one or
4 more mobile stations.

1 25. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the network
2 component limits a number of requests for the one or more positions of the one or more
3 mobile stations based on a comparison of the one or more call characteristics with one
4 or more thresholds.

1 26. (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 4, wherein one of the one
2 or more call statistics is a number of dropped calls within an hour.

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